South Dakota Department of Labor & Regulation 123 W. Missouri Ave. Pierre, SD 57501 dlr.sd.gov

For Immediate Release: Monday, March 30, 2020 Media Contact: Dawn Dovre, 605-773-3094

Unemployment Filing Reminders for Workers

PIERRE, S.D. – The Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR) continues to handle an unprecedented volume of unemployment insurance claims due to COVID-19 related layoffs.

Due to heavy call volume, individuals should file online at RAclaims.sd.gov if possible.

A new "last name" filing system is being implemented effective Monday, March 30 for claims taken by phone. Based on the first letter of your last name, claimants should file:

- A-F on Monday
- G-N on Tuesday
- O-Z on Wednesday
- If you missed your day, you can file on Thursday or Friday.

Claimants will need their Social Security number, driver's license or State ID, and 18 months of work history. The quickest way to receive benefit payments is by direct deposit.

"After you file an initial claim, you will receive a packet in the mail, so be on the lookout for this," said Secretary Hultman. "It will contain your monetary benefit determination, claimant checklist and handbook."

To be paid, claimants need to file a weekly request for payment, even though the work search requirement is currently waived. Unemployment claimants filing a weekly request for benefits should call 605-626-3212 **after 6 p.m. CDT**, or file online at RAclaims.sd.gov.

To cancel a claim, email <u>CancelRA@state.sd.us</u> your name and last four digits of Social Security number.

Many variables can affect a worker's eligibility and an employer's liability for benefits. Each case is examined on a case-by-case basis. <u>View a list of scenario</u> interpretations about eligibility.